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United States Department of Agriculture,

FOREST SERVICE,

GIFFORD PINCHOT, Forester.

PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE TO TREE PLANTERS.

THE OFFER AND ITS OBJECT.

The Department of Agriculture through the Forest Service gives practical assistance to landowners in establishing commercial forest plantations, shelterbelts, windbreaks, and snowbreaks, and in reclaiming shifting sands and other waste lands by forest planting. In connection with this work, information will be given, when possible, to interested communities by public meetings.

The purpose of the Service in its cooperation in forest planting, the plan of which has been followed continuously since July 8, 1899, is to establish in suitable localities examples of forest plantations of the highest possible usefulness and value to their owners, to afford object lessons of correct methods of forest planting, and to encourage the artificial extension of forest growth in regions where the public welfare demands a greater forest area.

This offer does not include the preparation of plans or the giving of advice for landscape gardening or decorative tree planting of any kind, since such work is entirely outside the province of the Forest Service.

NATURE OF THE ASSISTANCE GIVEN.

The assistance rendered is advisory, by means of correspondence and publications, or is embodied in a planting plan. In regions where the Forest Service has made investigations, assistance may be given through publications giving definite recommendations of species, accompanied by an advisory letter based on the information furnished by the owner in a letter, or in accordance with the sample form below. Mimeographed sheets giving lists of dealers and range of prices for plant material of species recommended will also be sent.

Form 728.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
FOREST SERVICE.

APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE IN FOREST PLANTING.

_____, 190

Name of applicant _____

Post-office address _____

Location of tract to be planted _____
(Town.) (County.) (State.)

Area of tract on which planting is contemplated _____ acres.

Character of land: Level _____ Rolling _____ Steep _____

Kind of soil: Sandy _____ Loamy _____ Clay _____
Does the soil contain lime? _____
Depth of surface soil: Shallow (6–12 inches) _____ Medium (12–24 inches) _____ Deep (24–35 inches) _____
Very deep (over 36 inches) _____
Drainage: Poor _____ Fair _____ Good _____
Is the land under cultivation? _____ If so, for what period, and what crops have been raised? _____
What trees thrive in natural woodlots in your neighborhood? _____
_____
Object of planting _____
When do you intend to plant? _____
Additional information _____
_____
_____
(Signed) _____

Since the Forest Service has made investigations of tree planting in the principal regions of artificial forest extension, advice can generally be given by the above method. Upon application for advice for tracts located in States where the Service has not already conducted regional studies, and where the results of the work will be of high educational value, a direct examination of the land may be made as soon as it is possible to undertake such work and a detailed planting plan prepared by a representative of the Forest Service.

A planting plan contains full and comprehensive instructions for the necessary forest planting upon the area examined, based upon a thorough study of its needs and possibilities. It enumerates the proper species to plant upon each particular planting site, gives instructions for the preparation of the ground and for the spacing and setting of the young trees, shows by diagrams the arrangement of the different species when more than one is advised, and conveys information relative to procuring or producing the seed and young trees. A planting plan for a large tract or for an area possessing great variations in topography and altitude is accompanied by a sketch map of the area studied. In addition to the instructions for establishing the forest plantation, the planting plan outlines the cultural and protective measures necessary to mature a profitable forest crop. A copy of the complete planting plan, with all essential measurements, maps, and other data, is sent to the owner. The Forest Service does not furnish labor, seeds, or nursery stock needed for the execution of a planting plan, save in certain very exceptional cases and under special conditions.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING COOPERATION WITH TREE PLANTERS.

Advice for forest planting can usually be given free of cost, since the necessary detailed study in the principal regions of economic planting has already been made. When, however, a field examination is necessary, as in plans for extensive commercial planting, the landowner is

requested to deposit funds to cover the total cost with the exceptions noted below:

The conditions upon which the Forest Service will undertake the preparation of planting plans are stated in the specimen agreement on pages 3 and 4. This agreement provides that the expense of the study shall be based upon the necessary outlay, but that the actual cost to the owner may be materially lessened, or in special cases the work may be done for nothing, in consideration of its experimental or educational value.

No planting plan need be put in effect unless it is satisfactory; but when the plan has been accepted the owner will be expected to enter upon its execution vigorously, to complete it within a reasonable time, and to give such reports upon the work as the Service may request of him.

It is of great importance that the owner or his representative shall accompany the Service representative upon the preliminary examination, in order that the wishes of the owner may be fully known and the plan shaped to conform with them. To this end the owner will be given proper notice of the date of the examination.

The specific agreement under which the Department of Agriculture conducts cooperative work in forest planting is as follows:

TREE PLANTING AGREEMENT.

WASHINGTON, D. C., _____, 190

The Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture and _____, of _____, county of _____, State of _____, mutually agree as follows:

1. The Forest Service, in pursuance of investigations in forestry and in order to disseminate a knowledge of improved ways of planting and developing forest plantations, woodlots, shelterbelts, and windbreaks, shall, after personal study on the ground by its agent or agents, prepare a plan for planting and caring for a forest plantation, woodlot, shelterbelt, or windbreak on _____ acres of land of the said _____ situated and described as follows: _____

_____

_____

town of _____, county of _____, State of _____

2. As soon as possible after the termination of said study, the Forest Service shall report to the said _____ the results obtained and its recommendations.

3. The Forest Service shall not furnish seeds nor trees, nor participate in any degree in the expenses of planting and tending said forest plantation, woodlot, shelterbelt, or windbreak.

4. The cost of said plan to the owner shall be based upon the actual expense of the Service of the necessary study on the ground. It may be reduced, or in some cases the study may be made without charge, in consideration of the usefulness of the work done under this agreement as an example in practical

forestry. Neither the Forest Service nor its agents shall share in any profit which may arise from the execution of the said plan.

The cost of the said plan to the said _____ is estimated at _____ dollars, which shall be deposited in advance with the Special Fiscal Agent of the Forest Service and shall be used as follows: _____

5. After the completion of said plan, and upon its acceptance by and a written request from the said _____, the Forest Service shall supervise the execution thereof, so far as may be necessary, at a cost to the said owner to be definitely agreed upon before such supervision is undertaken.

6. The said _____ shall, when so requested by the Forest Service, make reports upon the progress and results of planting under this agreement, and the Forest Service shall have the right to publish and distribute the said plan and its results, for the information of the public.

7. All machines, implements, and materials purchased with funds furnished by said _____ and not consumed, together with all unexpended cooperative funds, shall be turned over to him when no longer needed in the cooperative work. All machines, implements, and materials furnished by the Forest Service, and all specimens, samples, models, plans, drawings, negatives, and notes or manuscripts which have resulted from the cooperative work, and which may be desired by the Forest Service for record or publication, shall be retained by said Service.

8. This agreement may be dissolved by either party upon ten days' notice given to the other in writing.

9. No Member of or Delegate to Congress is or shall be admitted to any share, part, or interest in this agreement or to any benefit to arise therefrom.

(See sections 3739 to 3742, inclusive, Revised Statutes of the United States.)

(Signed) _____
Owner.

(Signed) _____
Forester.

HOW TO MAKE APPLICATION.

Persons desiring the assistance of the Forest Service under the provisions of this circular should fill out the application blank on pages 1 and 2 or make application by letter to the Forester of the Department of Agriculture, covering the points mentioned in that form. Upon request, printed blanks will be sent upon which application can be made. Advice will then be given at once by correspondence and publications or arrangements made with the owner for the examination of the land and the preparation of a planting plan if such examination and plan are deemed advisable.

GIFFORD PINCHOT,
Forester.

Approved:
JAMES WILSON,
Secretary of Agriculture.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 8, 1907.*

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